Crow wins street stock race

Victory in 25-lap main event is third of season

Canyon Country's Rick Crow used patience and skill to hold off an agressive pack of racers to win Saturday night's street stock 25-lap oval main event in front of 3,374 fans at Saugus Speedway.

Crow, who recorded his class' fastest time in the earlier qualifying heats, held a comfortable lead at several points during the race only to see his lead reduced by yellow caution flags.

The win was Crow's third of the season and it also marked his fourth-fast time of the season.

Crow was humbled shortly thereafter, starting near the back of the 15-lap figure-eight pack and winding up well behind winner Eric Foster of North Hollywood.

In the hobby stock oval 25-lap main event, Brian Kelley of Arleta rode the pole position to the checkered flag in the 25 lap race. The win vaulted Kelley into the points lead for the season ahead of Scott Wade of Burbank. Wade finished seventh.

Thad Friday of Reseda finished second.

Kelley also took the figure-eight 15-lap main event to add to his hobby stock points lead.

Starting in the fourth row, Rick Bonifield of Palmdale quickly pushed into contention in the first lap on his way to victory in the 12-lap jalopy main event.

Bonifield moved into second place behind leader Russ Wolff of Mission Hills and stayed there until Wolff went into a spin in turn two of the final lap. Wolff recovered to finish second.

The trophy dash races at the beginning of the evening were nothing short of exciting.

In the hobby stock oval dash, Thad Friday came from the rear of the four-car, four-lap race to challenge eventual winner Larry Leis of Castaic. Friday made his move on turn four of the last lap but was edged by half a car length as the crowd roared.

Russ Beckers of Sepulveda looked impressive in both the figure eight and oval street stock trophy dash races. Beckers earned hard-fought wins in both.

Jim Gunnarson of Reseda took the hobby stock figure eight trophy and Bonifield, over the track PA system, dedicated his jalopy oval dash win to astronaut Neil Armstrong, commemorating Armstrong's steps on the moon 20 years ago this month.